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HOUSE MEMORIAL 23

48TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2007

INTRODUCED BY

Danice Picraux

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THAT THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO BECOME AN ADVOCATE FOR THE DEDICATION OF PROPERTY KNOWN AS THE "NORTH GOLF COURSE" AS PERMANENT UNIVERSITY URBAN GREEN SPACE.

WHEREAS, the university of New Mexico received the land for the north golf course for one dollar (\$1.00); and

WHEREAS, the labor to construct the north golf course was provided without cost by the works progress administration and includes a historic structure designed by noted university architect John Gaw Meem; and

WHEREAS, all of the trees on the north golf course were given by neighbors who allowed them to be dug out of their yards and transplanted to the golf course; and

WHEREAS, former university of New Mexico President Thomas Popejoy envisioned the north golf course as a place of

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1 recreation for the entire community; and

2 WHEREAS, the north golf course is the largest green space
3 in the center of Albuquerque, which also serves the city by
4 reducing the urban heat island effect; and

5 WHEREAS, the trees protect the campus and surrounding area
6 from the pollutants vehicles emit on the state's two largest
7 interstates; and

8 WHEREAS, the trees are significant contributors toward the
9 city of Albuquerque's urban forest improvement initiative; and

10 WHEREAS, the north golf course is a refuge for wildlife
11 such as hawks, coyotes, roadrunners, rabbits and over a hundred
12 other desert creatures; and

13 WHEREAS, the north golf course provides further drainage
14 of storm water, which protects part of the city from flooding;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, the north golf course is a revenue-generating
17 part of the university of New Mexico's athletics program; and

18 WHEREAS, rates of obesity, heart disease, diabetes and
19 other illnesses caused by sedentary behaviors are increasing at
20 an alarming rate; and

21 WHEREAS, the north golf course provides a perimeter trail
22 of two miles open to walkers and joggers; and

23 WHEREAS, encouraging healthy lifestyles and exercise is an
24 inexpensive way to improve the health of Albuquerque residents;
25 and

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